

**PATENT**  
**IBM Docket No. RAL920000013US2**

**Amendments to the Claims:**

1 - 8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) A system for processing a plurality of serial Ethernet communications wherein the system includes a strobe signal and a clock signal, the system comprising:

a processor coupled to a multiplexed set of ports for input and output;

a first storage for a first Ethernet communication;

a second storage for a second Ethernet communication;

in response to ~~[[a]]~~ the strobe signal, coupling the processor to the first storage for handling the first Ethernet communication; and

in response to ~~[[a]]~~ the clock signal, changing from the one Ethernet storage to another Ethernet storage, whereby a single set of ports is coupled to a plurality of networks in sequence, with the sequence being responsive to the strobe signal.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) A system for coupling a plurality of sources to a single processor ~~including the elements of Claim 10 wherein the system includes processing chip, the system comprising:~~

a substrate including a system for processing Ethernet inputs;

a clock input for determining a time period for processing the input from a single source;

a single input gate for a single input;

a sequencer which determines which source is being processed during the time period and which services a different source during the next clock period said sequence

**PATENT**  
**IBM Docket No. RAL920000013US2**

including a counter which indicates which source is serviced at any time and the counter is coupled to the clock input for indexing the counter in response to a clock pulse; and

a strobe input and the counter is coupled to the strobe input and is reset by a signal on the strobe input.